

**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
2014**

PURSUANT TO SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 73
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO GIVE
A REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF
THE RED HILL FUEL TASK FORCE REGARDING
THE EFFECTS OF THE JANUARY 2014 FUEL TANK LEAK

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Introduction

The Red Hill Fuel Storage Facility contains the largest fuel tanks in Hawaii. They have been in operation for over seventy (70) years and have had a history of releases from 19 of the 20 tanks. The location is 100 feet over one of Oahu's drinking water resources.

On January 13, 2014, the U.S. Navy (Navy) reported a leak of 27,000 gallons of jet fuel at the facility. As a result, the legislature requested the department to organize a task force to investigate the effects of this release. On April 24, 2014, Hawaii legislature adopted the Senate Concurrent Resolution 73, which created the Red Hill Task Force.

The task force represented multiple stakeholders including the Navy, the regulatory agencies (Department of Health (DOH) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)), one member from the House of Representatives and one member from the Senate, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and two members from the public community. Appendix one contains a list of all the task force participants and any alternates.

Findings

Three meetings will have been held to discuss the effects of this recent release and to offer recommendations on improving operations to ensure protection of Hawaii's drinking water. These include regulatory requirements, facility improvements and improved communication to the public.

The first meeting was held on September 3, 2014. This meeting included a discussion on release response activities the Navy has implemented since the January leak and the Navy's intentions to improve the facility. The Navy's technical experts were unavailable for the meeting and a list of technical questions were collected. The Navy was requested to provide answers to these questions in advance of the second task force meeting. Appendix two contains the materials from the first meeting, including the agenda, PowerPoint presentations from the meeting,

attendance list, notes from the meeting, and questions submitted to the Navy and their responses after the meeting.

The second meeting was held on October 7, 2014. The primary focus of this meeting was to discuss the Appendix three contains the materials from the second meeting, including the agenda, handouts, attendance list, notes from the meeting, and responses received from task force members' "homework" assignment.

The third meeting was held on November 9, 2012. This meeting focused on the draft report prepared by the Department of Health which includes all of the recommendations of the task force. Appendix four contains the materials from the third meeting, including the agenda, handouts, attendance list, notes from the meeting, and comments received from task force members via email.

All materials from all three meetings will be posted online at:

<http://health.hawaii.gov/shwb/underground-storage-tanks/>.

Recommendation

Appendix five includes the proposed legislation that will be submitted by the Department of Health in the Administration package for the 2014 Legislature. This proposal attempts to take into account the range of viewpoints expressed by the group and seeks to create recommendations that serve to protect Hawaii's drinking water resource.